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GLOUCESTER  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE  
Public Health Department

For the Year

1959


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STEPHEN KNIGHT  
M.B., B.S.(Lond.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.  
Medical Officer of Health

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W. R. WHEELER,  
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# Rural District Council of Gloucester

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## ANNUAL REPORT

of the

## Medical Officer of Health

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To the Chairman and Members of the  
Rural District Council of Gloucester.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for 1959 on the environmental hygiene and sanitary circumstances of the Rural District. The Report is compiled in accordance with Regulations 5 (3) and 15 (5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959 and Circular 1/60 of the Ministry of Health.

The health of the District continues to be good ; and is reflected in the vital statistics such as the birth rate, death rate and infantile mortality rate which in each instance is favourable in comparison with the corresponding rate for England and Wales.

There was no outbreak of serious infectious disease and the year passed without any cases of acute poliomyelitis. Vaccination against poliomyelitis was available to all persons up to 25 years of age ; the poorest response to this vaccination is amongst teenagers who are particularly vulnerable to the disease.

More houses were erected than in the previous year and although a reasonable proportion of the new houses are one bedroomed dwellings the need for this type of house is increasing.

The number of applicants for Council Houses fell from 778 in 1958 to 584 in the year under review.

In accordance with the Council's progressive policy, the basis was laid for sewerage schemes in the parishes of Hempsted, Upton

St. Leonards, Hardwicke and Quedgeley. The final stage of the Frampton-on-Severn and Fretherne-with-Saul Sewerage Scheme was nearing completion at the end of the year.

Every parish has a main water supply and during the year a further three miles of distribution main was laid.

I have to thank my colleagues who have supplied me with detailed records and information from which this report is compiled ; also included are sections by the Surveyor, Mr. H. F. Freeman and the Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. S. W. D. Harris.

I am glad to have this opportunity of expressing my appreciation to the Council and the Health, Housing and Planning Committee for the support and encouragement afforded me during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

STEPHEN KNIGHT,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

## **Public Health Committee (31.12.59)**

Chairman : T. J. WHITFIELD

Vice-Chairman : C. J. STEELE

LT.-COL. E. R. P. BERRYMAN,	A. E. KEYS
D.S.O., T.D.	MISS O. LLOYD-BAKER, C.B.E.
MRS. B. M. CASTLE	C. G. MAYO
F. A. CHAMBERLAYNE	R. T. MERRETT
MRS. COLCHESTER-WEMYSS,	A. N. ODLING, O.B.E.
M.B.E.	E. J. PENNELS
W. J. DAVIS	D. WATHAN
C. J. DE LISLE WELLS	J. H. WESTERN
R. L. EVANS	E. C. WHEELER
L. E. W. O. FULLBROOK-	P. H. WOODMAN
LEGGATT, M.C.	J. I. JONES
W. G. H. JAMES	

## **Public Health Department Staff**

STEPHEN KNIGHT, M.B., B.S.(LOND.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.  
Medical Officer of Health to the Tewkesbury Borough, Charlton Kings Urban District, Gloucester and Cheltenham Rural Districts and County Divisional Medical Officer of Health for the North Gloucestershire Divisional Area.

S. W. D. HARRIS, C.S.I.B., M.R.S.H., Chief Public Health Inspector and Petroleum Officer.

G. G. VIGGERS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., District Public Health Inspector and Rodent Control Officer.

P. M. JONES, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., District Public Health Inspector.

L. S. SCOURFIELD, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., District Public Health Inspector.

F. GREENWOOD, Rodent Operator.

N. J. TRIGG, Clerk.

## **Statistics and Social Conditions of the District**

Area (in acres) : 70,808.

Population (Registrar General's estimated Home Population mid 1959) : 43,920. (This figure includes members of the Armed Forces stationed in the District).

Number of Inhabited Houses (December 31st, 1959), according to rate books : 12,381.

Rateable Value (December 31st, 1959) : £591,469. 10. 0.

Sum represented by a penny rate (March, 1959) : £1,964. 15. 4.

General Rate 1959-60 : 17/8. (County Precept 15/-).

## **Industry in the District**

The main industries in the District are agriculture, aircraft, nylon spinning, and light engineering.

## **Adoptive Public Health Legislation in force in the District**

1. Building byelaws (Public Health Act, 1936, adopted 31st July, 1953).

2. New Streets (adopted 1st April, 1937).

3. Tents, Vans, Sheds and similar structures (adopted 1st September, 1938).

4. Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in Open Air (adopted 28th August, 1950).

5. Gloucestershire County Council Act, 1956, Section 141, Water supplies to occupied houses (adopted 1st January, 1957).

## **Vital Statistics**

These statistics give particulars as to the births and deaths in the district, together with certain rates which are compared, where possible, with those for England and Wales.

A detailed list of the causes of death will be found at the end of the report :—

**Table I**

						Male	Female	Totals
Live Births:								
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	381	379	760
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	13	16	29
Total	..	..	..	..	..	394	395	789
Live Birth Rate per 1000 population						..	..	18.0
Area Comparability factor (births)						..	..	1.0
Corrected Birth Rate (18.0 x 1.0)						..	..	18.0
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births						..	..	3.7
						Male	Female	Totals
Still Births :								
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	14	7	21
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	1	—	1
Total	..	..	..	..	..	15	7	22
Still Birth Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births						..	..	27.1
Still Birth Rate per 1000 population						..	..	0.5
Total live and still births						..	..	811
Infant Deaths :								
(Death of infants under 1 year of age)								
						Male	Female	Totals
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	10	5	15
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
Total	..	..	..	..	..	10	5	15
(Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age)								
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	7	3	10
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
Total	..	..	..	..	..	7	3	10
(Deaths of infants under 1 week of age)								
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	6	3	9
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
Total	..	..	..	..	..	6	3	9
INFANT MORTALITY RATES								
Total infant deaths per 1000 total live births						..	..	19.0
Legitimate infant deaths per 1000 legitimate live births							..	19.7
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1000 illegitimate live births							..	Nil
Neo-natal mortality rate—								
Deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 total live births						..	..	12.8
Early neo-natal mortality rate—								
Deaths under 1 week per 1000 total live births						..	..	11.4
Perinatal mortality rate—								
Stillbirth and deaths under 1 week combined per 1000 total live and still births						..	..	38.2

# MATERNAL MORTALITY (including abortion) :

Number of deaths .. .. .	Nil
Rate per 1000 total live and still births .. .. .	Nil

# DEATHS :

	Male	Female	Totals
	236	257	493
Crude Death Rate per 1000 population .. .. .			11.2
Area Comparability Factors (Deaths) .. .. .			0.96
Corrected Death Rate (11.2 x 0.96) .. .. .			10.8

# POPULATION

The Registrar General's estimate of the population for 1959 is 43,920 as compared with 42,820 for the previous year. The natural increase in population, excess of births over deaths, is 296.

# BIRTH RATE

Births numbered 789 in the year under review, 25 fewer than in 1958. Although the birth rate, 18.0 births per 1000 of population, is lower than last year it compared favourably with the rate, 16.5, for England and Wales.

# DEATH RATE

There were 493 deaths, a decrease of 18 from the previous year ; the death rate 11.2 is much the same as that for last year and the current rate 11.6 for England and Wales.

# INFANTILE MORTALITY

Fifteen infants died under one year of age against twenty-one such deaths in 1958. The infantile mortality is at the rate of 19.0 deaths per 1000 births comparing favourably with the national rate 22.0. Most of these deaths, as is usual, occurred in the neo-natal period within four weeks of birth.

**Table 2. Birth, Death, and Infantile Mortality Rates in the District for the last five years**

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Birth Rate (per 1000 population) ..	15.9	18.64	16.5	19.0	18.0
Death Rate (per 1000 population) ..	15.6	10.06	9.5	11.9	11.2
Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1000 live births) (—deaths of infants under 1 year .. .. .)	23.2	20.5	17.1	25.8	19.0
Neonatal Mortality Rate, per 1000 live births (deaths of infants under 1 month)	—	—	—	13.5	12.8

**Table 3. For Comparison, the Birth, Death, and Infantile Mortality Rates for England and Wales etc. are given below**

	England and Wales	County of Gloucester	Gloucester Rural District
Live Births .. .. .	16.5	17.25	18.0
Still Births (per 1000 total, live and still births) .. .. .	20.7	19.60	27.1
Infantile Mortality Rate, per 1000 live births (deaths of infants under 1 year)	22.0	17.67	19.0
Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths of infants under 1 month, per 1000 live births) .. .. .	—	13.61	12.8
Death Rate (per 1000 population) ..	11.6	10.70	11.2

## CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE DISTRICT IN 1959

Table 4 gives the causes of death in the District in accordance with the abbreviated list of 36 groups of the World Health Organisation Nomenclature Regulations, 1948.

**Table 4.**

CAUSES OF DEATH					Male	Female
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	2	2
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	1	1
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	—	2
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—
5.	Whooping cough	...	...	...	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	1	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	...	1	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	—	—
10.*	(Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	4	3
11.	( " " lung, bronchus	...	...	...	7	1
12.	( " " breast	...	...	...	—	13
13.	( " " uterus	...	...	...	—	5
14.	(Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	16	19
15.	(Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	1	1
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	1	3
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	22	47
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	52	34
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	3	7
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	...	39	49
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	5	7
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	9	7
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	10	16
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	13	5
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	3	2
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	—	3
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	1	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	2	1
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	1	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	2	5
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	16	14
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	10	2
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	8	3
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	6	4
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	—	—
TOTAL					236	257

### Explanatory Note.

\* Neoplasm = Cancer.

# **GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT**

## **Laboratory Facilities**

The examination of pathological specimens, and the analyses of milk and ice cream samples, etc., are carried out at the laboratory of the Gloucester Royal Hospital, under the Medical Research Council Scheme. (There is no charge for this work.)

Water and sewage analyses, taken by this Department, are carried out by the Council's Analysts, Messrs. Ellis & Turner, Public Analysts, Gloucester.

## **Hospitals**

The Council have no responsibility for arranging hospital treatment, except with regard to old people in need of care and attention and dealt with under the National Assistance Acts.

Infectious disease cases are admitted to the Isolation Hospital at Over, which is administered by the Gloucester, Stroud and Forest Management Committee.

## **Child Welfare Centres**

These Centres are under the general administration of the County Area Health Sub-Committee.

Child Welfare centres are held at Brockworth, Churchdown, Eastington, Frampton, Hucclecote and Barnwood, Longlevens, Norton, Quedgeley and Upton St. Leonards.

The attendances at these centres remain very good and the greatest thanks are due to the hard work put in by the voluntary committees in making them a success.

## **Home Help Service**

This service is organised by the County Council and is provided according to a scale of assessment where the need is supported by the family doctor.

The following types of cases are assisted and the figures on 31st December, 1959 were :—

Maternity cases	..	..	..	3
General sickness	..	..	..	17
Tuberculosis ..	..	..	..	5
Chronic sickness or old age	..	..	..	57
				—
				82
				—

There were 55 part-time home helps in the district.

## **NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 AND 1951**

These Acts authorise the Council and Medical Officer of Health to arrange for the compulsory removal of aged and sick persons, living in insanitary conditions, and unable to provide for themselves and not receiving from other people proper care and attention, to a hospital or residential institution.

During the year compulsory removal to hospital was found necessary for two persons in the district. One old lady, aged 91 years, living alone, collapsed after a heart attack. Another old lady aged 85 years was bedridden from weakness due to anaemia and malnutrition.

Both old ladies recovered after treatment and left hospital and were able to carry on for a further period.

**Table 5. Notification of Infectious Diseases in 1959 by Age Groups.**

Disease	0+	1+	3+	5+	10+	15+	25+	45+	65+	Age N.K.	Total
Scarlet fever ...	...	9	17	65	5	...	...	...	...	...	96
Whooping cough ...	2	7	5	10	2	...	...	...	...	...	26
Measles (excl. G.M.) ...	15	98	113	225	33	8	2	...	...	...	494
Ac. Poliomyelitis (paralytic)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ac. Poliomyelitis (non-para.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	...	...	...	...	...	2	9	15	5	...	31
Tuberculosis (meninges, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculosis (other)	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	4
Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Smallpox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningococcal infection	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Ac. Encephalitis (infective)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ac. Encephalitis (post-inf.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery ...	...	1	...	3	...	1	3	...	...	...	8
Ophthalmia neonatorum ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal pyrexia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ac. Pneumonia (prim. or flu')	...	...	...	...	...	4	10	2	5	...	10
Para-typhoid fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Enteric fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Food poisoning ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	2	1	...	5
Malaria (Contr. E. & W.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	17	115	137	303	40	18	25	20	11	1	687

## **Scarlet Fever**

There were 96 cases of scarlet fever notified during the year. Now-a-days the character of the disease is mild ; it is the practice to isolate patients in their own homes and not to exclude "contacts" from school. No spread can be attributed to this action.

## **Whooping Cough**

Twenty-six cases were notified and no deaths occurred. Immunisation against whooping cough is carried out at the Child Welfare Centres or by family doctors.

## **Measles**

Measles was epidemic during the year, 494 cases were notified and one child died of the disease.

## **Diphtheria**

The district was free from diphtheria as it has been since 1951.

## **Acute Poliomyelitis**

No cases were notified. Vaccination against poliomyelitis was offered to persons under 25 years of age, and only 40% of this age group accepted as compared with 80% of children. At the time of writing, this vaccination is available to people under 40 years of age.

## **Food Poisoning**

There were no outbreaks or cases of food poisoning, which reflects favourably on the high standard of hygiene maintained by the food handlers in the District, and supervision by the Public Health Inspectors.

## **Diphtheria Immunisation**

Number of children who had completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1959.

**Table 6.**

Age at 31.12.59 i.e. born in year	Under 1 1959	1 1958	2 1957	3 1956	4 1955	5-9 1954-50	10-14 1949-45
Number immunised	81	464	492	366	479	2595	2246
Total number immunised		..	..	..	..	..	6733
Number of children immunised in 1959 :							
Primary ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	990
Maintenance ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1276

Nine hundred and ninety children were immunised against diphtheria for the first time and this figure is considerably in excess of the number of babies born during the year. It is estimated that 70% of the children under 15 years of age have been protected in this way.

A constant effort must be maintained to secure this high proportion of protected persons in order that the community may continue to be free from outbreaks of diphtheria.

**Vaccination (Smallpox)**

The following table sets out the details of the records of vaccination received during the year.

**Table 7.**

	Under 1 yr.	1	2-4	5-14	15 or over	Total
Vaccination ..	.. 324	20	6	10	34	394
Re-vaccination ..	.. -	2	5	8	36	51

Proportion of children vaccinated under one year of age expressed as a percentage of the number of births during the year 1959, 40%.

This proportion is not high enough for certain protection of the general public but compares favourably with other districts.

## Tuberculosis

**Table 8. This Table shews the new cases, in-transfers and deaths for Tuberculosis, for the past 22 years.**

Year	Pop. of District	New & I.T. Cases	Per 1000 Pop.	Deaths	Per 1000 Pop.	Number on Register	Per 1000 Pop.
1937	22,840	24	1.0	10	0.43	129	5.7
1938	23,130	31	1.3	19	0.82	130	5.6
1939		No Annual Report figures available					
1940							
1941							
1942	32,100	98	3.0	25	0.79	224	6.9
1943	32,130	58	1.8	22	0.69	276	8.5
1944	32,210	74	2.3	25	0.78	313	9.7
1945	31,480	53	1.7	11	0.35	203	6.5
1946	31,550	53	1.7	17	0.54	176	5.6
1947	31,960	63	1.9	15	0.45	205	6.4
1948	33,540	54	1.6	21	0.62	201	6.0
1949	36,350	65	1.8	16	0.48	205	5.6
1950	35,640	52	1.5	11	0.39	207	5.7
1951	37,360	64	1.7	17	0.45	212	5.7
1952	38,370	70	1.8	6	0.15	243	6.3
1953	37,430	51	1.3	8	0.21	220	5.8
1954	39,140	65	1.6	8	0.20	235	6.0
1955	40,490	75	1.8	3	0.07	274	6.8
1956	41,770	70	1.7	3	0.07	281	6.7
1957	43,000	65	1.5	3	0.07	293	6.8
1958	42,820	50	1.2	3	0.12	293	6.8
1959	43,920	64	1.2	6	0.16	298	6.8

**Table 9. New, In Transfer cases, Deaths and Number on the Register. 31st December, 1959.**

	Respiratory		Meninges & C.N.S.		Other forms		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
New Cases ...	22	8	—	—	1	4	35
In-Transfer Cases ...	15	9	—	—	2	3	29
Deaths ...	2	2	—	—	1	1	6
On Register 31.12.59	148	111	—	—	16	23	298

Six people died of respiratory tuberculosis and thirty five new cases were notified. Modern methods of treatment have brought

about a remarkable fall in the deaths but new cases continue to occur. Tuberculosis can be eliminated but full support is required for such preventive measures as Mass Radiography and B.C.G. vaccination which is offered to children leaving school.

## **SEWAGE DISPOSAL AND REFUSE COLLECTION**

Report by the Surveyor :

### **1. Sewerage**

The quantity of sewage being received at the Longford Purification Works continues to increase and this trend will, of course, continue as long as new houses are being erected and connected to the system. The total flow to the plant during the year was 530,300,000 galls. which equals an average flow of 1,452,876 galls. per day, this being far above the designed maximum of the plant, but thanks to the continued careful attention and constant supervision by Mr. Jarvis, the Superintendent, and Mr. Brierley, his Assistant, the discharged effluent, whilst far from what could be desired, nevertheless continues to satisfy the standard conditions except during abnormal periods.

The amendments of the plant so far approved by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government are nearing completion and it is hoped that an improved effluent will result as soon as this work is completed. Now that the Ministry has allowed the "3rd Phase" extensions to proceed, it is hoped that the work will be put in hand at an early date and when this is completed, it is anticipated that, once again, the effluent from the Works will be to the satisfaction of the Council, its Officers and the River Board.

Notwithstanding the overloading the Works has continued to attract the technically minded visitors anxious to see a modern type plant in operation and groups of students from local technical colleges have also been shown round the plant.

During the year the main drainage scheme for Frampton-on-Severn came into operation, and this long awaited amenity is being extended with the result that one of the worst sewerage problems in the district is now being resolved.

Active consideration has been given by the Council during the year for the provision of main drainage facilities in the parishes of :—

Hardwicke  
Haresfield  
Hempsted  
Norton  
Quedgeley

and for extensions of these facilities in other parishes.

It is hoped that the Upton St. Leonards and Hempsted schemes will be put in hand at an early date and the others follow in the not too distant future.

The work of maintenance of the various small plants throughout the district continues satisfactorily.

## **2. Refuse Collection**

It is pleasing to be able to record that consequent upon the easing of labour difficulties, the Council was able to offer, for the first time, a complete weekly service throughout the whole of its area. The increasing number of houses in the area has necessitated another increase in the fleet of vehicles and a further Compressmore Collector was brought into operation in the more urbanised areas in May, and a new side loading vehicle later in the year to serve the rural areas. The consequent re-organisation has enabled the workmen to complete their duties within normal working hours and prevented the working of overtime except in isolated and unusual circumstances.

The number of complaints regarding the service have been so small that personal contact has been made in every case and grievances righted where possible.

The constantly recurring complaint, and this is particularly noticeable where new residents have moved from an urban area, is the fact that the refuse is not collected from the back of the premises and the householder has to put the receptacle in front of the property ready for collection. This is a problem facing all authorities, particularly rural ones, and can only be overcome by (a) increasing the cost of the service by a very considerable amount, (b) a much less frequent service being provided or (c) the regular weekly collection being abandoned and an irregular service substituted.

In conclusion, I would like to express my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Council and Committees for their co-operation and encouragement, to the members of my staff and the

Council's workmen who have given me their loyal support throughout the year.

H. F. FREEMAN,  
*Surveyor.*

**PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT**

Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector

A Summary of the visits carried out by the Public Health Inspectors is tabulated below :—

**Table 10.**

	No. of Inspections	Notices Served		Defects remedied after notice	
		Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal
Dwelling houses ..	613	32	—	28	—
Water supplies ..	294	6	—	6	—
Food premises ..	371	19	—	19	—
Slaughterhouses ..	1323	46	—	45	—
Milk and Dairies ..	44	—	—	—	—
Bakehouses ..	2	—	—	—	—
Factories etc. ..	217	24	—	24	—
Drainage and Sewerage	856	38	—	25	—
Atmospheric pollution	69	13	—	12	—
Infectious disease ..	35	Disinfection carried out when necessary			
Pests ..	117	2	—	2	—
Miscellaneous ..	418	14	—	9	—
Total ..	4359	194	—	170	—

**WATER SUPPLIES**

Main supplies in the district are provided by three statutory water undertakings, viz., Gloucester Corporation, Cheltenham Corporation, and Stroud District Water Board, and they supervise the purity and adequacy of their supplies.

In addition there are three smaller undertakings, Gloucestershire County Council, Frocester Estate, and Haresfield Estate, which provide certain of their properties with piped water from storage reservoirs served by hillside springs.

## Extensions of Mains during 1959

### GLOUCESTER CORPORATION :—

#### *New mains laid*

					yards
Barnwood .. .. .	..	..	..	..	534
Brockworth .. .. .	..	..	..	..	289
Churchdown .. .. .	..	..	..	..	289
Fretherne with Saul .. .. .	..	..	..	..	72
Hempsted .. .. .	..	..	..	..	677
Hucclecote .. .. .	..	..	..	..	147
Longlevens .. .. .	..	..	..	..	884
Quedgeley .. .. .	..	..	..	..	63
Upton St. Leonards .. .. .	..	..	..	..	189
Westbury-on-Severn .. .. .	..	..	..	..	210
					3,354

#### *New mains authorised but not yet laid:*

Westbury-on-Severn	..	..	..	90
Churchdown 6 in. main	..	..	..	677
Churchdown, 4 in. main	..	..	..	976
				<hr/>
				1,743

### CHELTENHAM CORPORATION :—

#### *New mains laid:*

Nil

#### *New mains authorised but not yet laid:*

Nil

### STROUD WATER BOARD :—

#### *New main laid:*

Nil

#### *New main authorised but not yet laid:*

Nil

## WELL SUPPLIES

Thirty-three analyses of well water were carried out, in 31 cases the results were unsatisfactory and appropriate action was taken.

**Main Water Supplies in the District showing the Number of Houses and Population served**  
**Table 11.**

Parish	Main Water Supply	Main Supply in House	Pop.	Stand Pipes Main	No. of Houses	Pop.
Arlingham	Glos. Corporation	79	276	1	6	21
Ashleworth	"	84	294	—	—	—
Barnwood	"	385	1347	—	—	—
Brockworth	"	1560	5460	—	—	—
Brookthorpe	"	90	315	1	7	25
Chaceley	Chelt. Corporation	13	45	—	—	—
Churchdown	Glos. Corporation	1865	6527	—	—	—
Down Hatherley	"	6	21	—	—	—
	Chelt. Corporation	97	340	—	—	—
Eastington	Stroud Dist. W.B.	394	1379	—	—	—
Elmore	Glos. Corporation	64	224	—	—	—
Frampton	"	281	983	3	16	56
Forthampton	Chelt. Corporation	53	185	—	—	—
Fretherne-with-Saul	Glos. Corporation	189	661	—	—	—
Frocester	Stroud Dist. W.B.	8	28	—	—	—
	Private Estate	46	161	—	—	—
Hardwicke	Glos. Corporation	228	798	1	13	46
Harescombe	"	22	77	—	—	—
	Stroud Dist. W.B.	14	49	—	—	—
Haresfield	Glos. Corporation	31	108	—	—	—
Hasfield	Chelt. Corporation	22	77	—	—	—
	Glos. Corporation	13	45	—	—	—
Hempsted	"	165	577	—	—	—
Highnam	"	148	518	—	—	—
Hucclecote	"	1620	5670	—	—	—
Longford	"	287	1004	—	—	—
Longlevens	"	2044	7154	—	—	—
Longney	"	83	290	1	5	18
Maisemore	"	114	399	—	—	—
Minsterworth	"	122	427	—	—	—
Moreton Valence	"	71	248	1	3	11
	Glos. County Council	1	4	—	—	—
Newnham	Glos. Corporation	322	1127	1	8	28
Norton	Chelt. Corporation	78	273	—	—	—
Quedgeley	Glos. Corporation	325	1137	2	24	84
Sandhurst	"	103	360	—	—	—
Standish	"	10	35	—	—	—
	Stroud Dist. W.B.	6	21	—	—	—
	Glos. County Council	66	231	1	—	—
Tirley	Chelt. Corporation	62	217	—	—	—
	Glos. Corporation	1	4	—	—	—
Twigworth	"	49	172	—	—	—
Upton St. Leonards	"	233	816	2	16	56
	Stroud Dist. W.B.	10	35	—	—	—
Westbury-on-Severn	Glos. Corporation	221	773	1	2	7
Whitminster	"	114	399	2	9	32
	Glos. County Council	9	32	—	—	—
Totals		11708	41343	17	109	384

## Water Shortages

Shortages were reported from Colethrop, Haresfield and the Wainlode area of Norton, both dependent on well supplies. There was an acute shortage in the Blaisdon Road area of Westbury-on-Severn where the Council's water tank trailer was in use for much of the summer. Consideration is being given to the provision of main water to the area.

## ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION—CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

There has been a steady increase in the number of cases of pollution requiring investigation by the Department. One such case concerned a railway locomotive and following informal action British Railways Western Region issued appropriate instructions to all footplate staff concerned.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

**Table 12.**

Type of Business	Total Number	No. of Inspections	Remarks
Cafes and Canteens	93	108	This includes school canteens.
Grocery and Provision shops	80	67	This includes sweet shops and chemists.
Ice Cream Vendors	78	91	Registered under S.16 Food and Drugs Act, 1955. All Ice Cream sold in the district is pre-packed.
Butchers Shops	14	44	Six shops registered under S.16 Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Sausage making.
Fishmongers ...	4	5	This includes fried and wet fish.
Bakehouses ...	2	3	These are mostly small and only supply a small proportion of the population.
Licensed Premises	62	38	The breweries are very co-operative in carrying out improvements recommended.
Dairies ... ..	5	31	Registered under Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949 to 54.
Wholesale Premises (Food Manufacture)	2	9	Inspected under Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.
Total ...	340	396	

## HYGIENE IN FOOD PREMISES

### FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955

### FOOD HYGIENE (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS, 1957

Generally speaking a good standard of hygiene has been maintained in food premises and there has been a significant increase in the provision of refrigerated storage. A survey of all licensed premises in the district is in progress with a view to effecting any necessary improvements. The number of mobile food shops continues to increase and routine visits are paid by the Public Health Inspectors.

## MILK SUPPLIES

The main bulk of the milk produced is either pasteurised in the City of Gloucester or processed at Messrs. Cadbury's factory at Frampton-on-Severn.

The general supervision of dairy farm premises and milk production is now the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Following requests by Officers of the Ministry, advice was given in a number of cases regarding the improvement of milk production premises.

### Retail Milk Sampling

Ten samples were taken during the year. The types of milk sampled were as follows :—

**Table 13.**

Pasteurised	Tuberculin Tested	TT (Pasteurised)
4	2	4

The following are the results of laboratory examinations:—

**Table 14.**

	Test	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Methylene Blue	.. ..	10	—
Phosphatase	.. ..	10	—

**Table 15. Milk Registrations**

Number of milk distributors registered .. .. .	29
Number of dairy premises registered (other than dairy farms) ..	6

**Anthrax Order, 1938**

Six suspected cases in cattle were notified. One case was confirmed and appropriate action was taken.

**BAKEHOUSES**

Bakehouses at the following places were in use at the end of the year. Frampton-on-Severn, Newnham-on-Severn. Probably well over 90% of bread consumed in the area is produced from large factories located outside the district.

**PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949**

It is essential that complaints of infestation receive prompt attention. The Council's scheme has continued to work satisfactorily and all complaints were dealt with as they arose.

**Table 16.**

	Inspections	Treatment
Private dwellings .. .. .	1390	217
Council houses and hutments ..	87	16
Farms .. .. .	53	—
Business Premises .. .. .	210	31
Sewers .. .. .	174	7
Refuse Tips .. .. .	32	5
Schools .. .. .	54	9
Hospitals .. .. .	32	5
Old Sewage Works .. .. .	12	3
Total .. .. .	2044	293

## Details of Work Carried Out on Sewers and Refuse Tips

**Table 17.**

Sewers etc.	Action taken	Result
	Test baited, prebaited and poisoned	
Brockworth .. ..	May and December .. ..	Satisfactory
Hucclecote .. ..	May and December .. ..	Satisfactory
Newnham .. ..	May and December .. ..	Satisfactory
	Test baited only	
Churchdown .. ..	May .. ..	Satisfactory
Longlevens .. ..	May .. ..	Satisfactory
Longford .. ..	May .. ..	Satisfactory
	Poisoned only	
Barnwood .. ..	December .. ..	Satisfactory

**Table 18.**

Refuse Tips	Action Taken	Result
Walham .. ..	Prebaited and poisoned 3 treatments .. ..	Satisfactory
Frampton-on-Severn ..	Prebaited and poisoned 2 treatments .. ..	Satisfactory

## MEAT

### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

### PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS 1924-52

#### Slaughterhouses

The following slaughterhouses were licensed in 1959 and there was no change during the year.

1. Churchdown, Chapel Hay.
2. Eastington, Alkerton Place.
3. Fretherne-with-Saul, Saul Farm.
4. Longford, Field Farm.
5. Minsterworth, The Flatt.
6. Newnham-on-Severn, High Street.
7. Brookthorpe-with-Whaddon, Yew Tree Farm.
8. Brookthorpe-with-Whaddon, Brickhouse Farm.
9. Hempsted, Sud Meadow Road.

Two slaughterhouses in the district are used for the slaughter of cattle which have reacted to the tuberculin test under the Attested Herds Scheme. The Ministry of Agriculture is supplied with particulars of the post-mortem findings by the Public Health Inspectors.

### Transport and Handling of Meat

No complaints were received during the year. A number of vehicles were examined and some improvements noted.

### Slaughter of Animals Acts 1933-54

Forty-one slaughtermen are licensed in the District.

**Table 19. Carcasses and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.**

	Cattle Exclu- ding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Goats	Horses	Total
Number killed (if known) ..	2989	1015	725	29618	11867	—	—	46214
Number inspected .. .. .	2989	1015	725	29618	11867	—	—	46214
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis</i>								
Whole carcasses condemned	3	8	2	17	15	—	—	45
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	486	207	4	879	383	—	—	1959
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticercosis	16·36%	21·18%	·82%	3·02%	3·35%	—	—	4·33%
<i>Tuberculosis only :</i>								
Whole carcasses condemned	5	17	1	—	2	—	—	25
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	141	179	20	—	284	—	—	624
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis .. .. .	4·88%	19·31%	2·89%	—	2·41%	—	—	1·40%
<i>Cysticercosis :</i>								
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	55	3	—	—	—	—	—	58
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ..	55	2	—	—	—	—	—	57
Generalised and totally condemned .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Total weight of meat or organs condemned for :—

- (i) All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticercosis 15225 lb.
- (ii) Tuberculosis ... .. 19064 lb.
- (iii) Cysticercosis ... .. 1590 lb.

The large number of slaughterhouses and the heavy throughput entails meat inspection at all hours by the Public Health Inspectors to maintain an efficient service, and 100% inspection is made.

There has been no decrease in the incidence of cysticercosis in cattle. This condition continues to give rise to severe economic loss throughout the country.

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

### Condemnation of Foodstuffs

This Department is notified when shops, canteens and individuals suspect that articles of food are unfit for human consumption. Table 20 shows the articles of food condemned during the year.

**Table 20.**

Article	Non-Preserved lb.	Preserved, tinned, etc. lb.
Meat .. ..	—	399
Flour and Cereals ..	5	—
Vegetables .. ..	—	255
Fish .. ..	—	29
Fruit .. ..	—	411
Cheese & Fats .. ..	127	—
Totals .. ..	132 lbs.	1094 lbs.

The above Table does not include meat condemned at slaughterhouses which is shewn in Table 19.

### Ice Cream

No ice cream is manufactured in the District, as it is purchased pre-packed from wholesalers. There are 78 registered premises in the District, and 91 inspections were carried out.

### Adulteration

The relevant sections of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, are administered by the County Council.

## NEW HOUSING, 1959

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

By the Council :

Newnham (Littledean Road)	..	..	..	..	4
Frampton-on-Severn..	..	..	..	..	67
Churchdown (Innsworth Grove)	..	..	..	..	44
By Private Enterprise	..	..	..	..	396
Total					511

Council Houses under construction :—

Churchdown (Innsworth Grove)	..	..	..	..	202
Hucclecote (Hillview Road Estate)	..	..	..	..	15
Total					217

Housing schemes under consideration :—

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government approved the erection of 96 houses on various sites in the Council's 1959 Housing Programme.

Private enterprise houses under construction at 31st December, 1959	..	..	..	..	..	228
Gloucestershire County Council Police houses under construction at 31st December, 1959	..	..	..			1
Number of Council houses sold to tenants in 1959	..					5
Total number of houses owned by Council at 31st December, 1959	..	..	..	..	..	1953

There were 584 applicants on the Council's housing list at the end of 1959 compared with 778 at the end of 1958.

## Housing Progress

Houses erected from 1st April, 1945 to 31st December, 1959 :—

By the Council and a local Housing Association	..	..	1579
By Private Enterprise	..	..	2665
Total			4244

## Statutory action during the year with respect to totally unfit houses

### 1. Housing Act, 1957, Section 16—Demolition Orders.

(a)	Demolition Orders recommended	..	..	..	3
(b)	Demolition Orders made	..	..	..	3
(c)	Undertakings accepted	..	..	..	3

### 2. Housing Act, 1957, Sections 16 and 18—Closing Orders.

(a)	Closing Orders recommended	..	..	..	24
(b)	Closing Orders made..	..	..	..	15
(c)	Undertakings accepted	..	..	..	10

### 3. Housing Act, 1957, Section 42—Clearance Areas.

(a)	Houses demolished in Clearance or Compulsory Purchase Areas	..	..	..	..	—
(b)	Clearance or Compulsory Purchase Orders made..					—
(c)	Clearance or Compulsory Purchase Orders under consideration	..	..	..	..	—

Owners have shown an increasing tendency to re-condition unfit houses in preference to carrying out demolition. The Council's progressive policy in providing and extending main services has assisted materially in this respect.

## Administration of the Factories Acts, 1937 to 1959

**Table 21.**

**1. Inspections for the purpose of provisions as to health.**

Premises	No. of premises in Register	No. of Inspections	No. of Written Notices	No. of Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ..	10	16	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. ..	81	185	9	—
(iii) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers). ..	36	16	2	—
Total .. ..	127	217	11	—

**Table 22.**

**2. Cases in which defects were found.**

Particulars	Number of cases where defects were found				No. of Cases in which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			to H.M.I.	by H.M.I.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	3	3	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temp (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Vent. (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Latrines (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	7	7	—	4	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including Homework).	4	2	—	2	—
Total ..	14	12	—	6	—

**Table 23. Outwork (Sections 110 and 111).**

Nature of work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. out-workers in Aug. list as req'd.	No. of cases of default in sending lists	No. prosecutions for failure to supply lists	Cases of work in Unwholesome premises	Notices Served	Prosecutions
Wearing Apparel (making)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	—	—	—	—	—	—

S. W. D. HARRIS,  
*Chief Public Health Inspector.*







